

Minutes of the Southern Energy Co-operative Ltd Board Meeting, 19 May 1997, 172 Skye Road, Frankston

Present: A.R. Gourley(Chair), Lois Wishart, Richard Greaves, David Griffiths and Greg Wishart

Minutes

1. Resolved that the minutes be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting of 21 April 1997 and be signed by the Chairman.

Moved: L. Wishart Seconded: R. Greaves

CARRIED

Smart Lamp

The Chairman reported that the letter had not yet been forwarded to Phillips.

UtiliCorp United

The Chairman reported that he had not yet prepared the summary of Utilicorp United Inc's Annual Report for the fiscal year ended 31 December 1996.

Membership

The Secretary tabled an application from Alison Blackwell for membership and reported that the applicant had purchased one \$10 share.

2. That a share be allotted to:

Alison Blackwell One Share No 73

Moved: D. Griffiths Seconded: R. Greaves

CARRIED

Documents

The Secretary provided directors with copies of the following documents:

- 1) ACCC News Release National Electricity Market Access Code 29 April 1997
- 2) ACCC News Release United Energy's surge protection plan sparks hope for consumers, 22 April 1997
- 3) Energy Australia Deregulation and Buying Electricity in the National Market
- 4) Green Power - various
- 5) ICA 75th International Co-operative Day: The Co-operative Contribution to World Food Security.
- 6) Introducing Competition in ACT Electricity Retailing
- 7) News Release - National Power led consortium wins Australian power plant, 3 August 1996
- 8) News Releases - Victorian Premier (1 April 1997) and Acting Treasurer (7 February 1997)
- 9) Opportunities for Co-operatives in Health Care Discussion Paper No 3
- 10) PacifiCorp and KN Energy Simplify The Marketplace For Utilities and Consumers
- 11) Powering The Future (Queensland)
- 12) 75th International Co-operative Day: 5 July 1997- Message from the International Co-operative Alliance: The Co-operative Contribution to World Food Security.
- 13) Trade and Industry Committee Report Liberalisation of the Electricity Market, 20 March 1997
- 14) TransGrid (NSW) Fact Sheets
- 15) UK Windfall Tax - various
- 16) Victorian Government Budget Papers 1997/98 Extract from Chapter 2 Economic Trends and Structural Reform

SEC News

The Board discussed the draft SEC News which was mailed to directors on 28 April 1997. It was agreed to authorise the newsletter with the following changes:

1. The name Southern Energy Co-operative Ltd would appear under the masthead.
2. There would be two prizes, the competition would run until 31 August 1997 and directors would not be eligible for the prizes.
3. The item Subscribe to SEC News would note that the payment of the \$6.50 would enable continued receipt of SEC News for 12 months.
4. The front page would include the Chairman's article Looking Ahead At Electricity Bills and this article would be anonymous.
5. The price of Co-operation Works would be deleted.

It was agreed that the first issue would be published in June 1997 and that it would be published on bright orange paper. The Chairman said that he would discuss these with Truecolour and the identification of Truecolour on the bottom of the first page.

Membership Brochure

It was agreed that the Membership Brochures would be circulated with the first newsletter, that the Secretary would draft and circulate for the response of directors and that the brochure should include an explanation on how to join. It was also agreed that the brochure should be printed on bright orange paper.

Beechworth

Richard Greaves reported on meetings that he and Graeme Charles, Chairman of Co-operative Energy Ltd, would be attending in Beechworth next week to discuss the concept of a Centre for Cooperative Action.

It was agreed that Richard would be able to speak about the role of Southern Energy Co-operative Ltd, its interest in facilitating co-operative action consistent with its mission and objects and that its membership was open and that members would be welcome from anywhere in Victoria if membership was being sought.

Co-operative Conference

David Griffiths reported that Co-operative Energy Ltd had met with a Mr Neil Smith, of the Centre for Rural Communities, concerning a co-operative conference in October 1997 - focusing on rural Victoria and co-operative opportunities. He said that there would be a further meeting on 5 June 1997. He also reported that the Board of the Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd would be asked at its next meeting on 23 May 1997 to co-sponsor the conference.

Photovoltaic Systems

Richard Greaves reported that Roger Lamb was providing him with information on technical and cost details of photovoltaic systems and he was interested in the applicability to Beechworth and Frankston.

Fundraising

Greg Wishart suggested that the Board could consider becoming an agent for HomePure Healthy Water Systems.

He suggested a potential commission of \$25 per unit sold was achievable.

He declared a commercial interest as a distributor for HomePure and that he was a personal friend of one of the three directors of Austech Pty Ltd.

He agreed to provide Richard Greaves with additional technical material.

It was agreed to discuss the proposal at the next Board meeting.

Audit

Greg Wishart reported that he had been discussing with David Osborne, of Shepherd Webster & O'Neill, the cost of audits. He declared also that David Osborne was a personal friend. A more detailed report would be brought to the next Board meeting.

Co-option

3. That Greg Wishart be co-opted as a director.

Moved: D.Griffiths Seconded: R. Greaves

CARRIED

NEXT MEETING: 16 June 1997, 172 Skye Road, Frankston

AR Grouley 24/7/97